Post-Analysis/Pre-Decision Discussion for Jasper Mountain

April 16, 2015

Meeting Notes

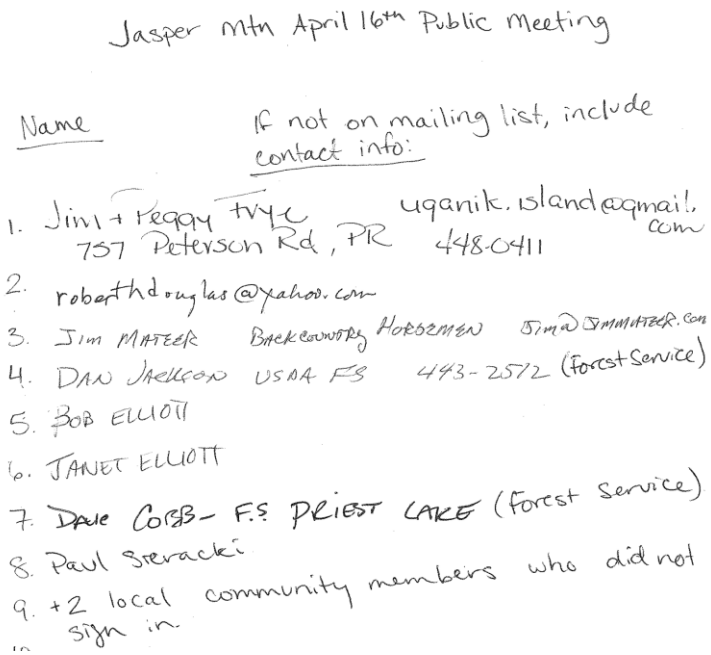
- One of the participants in the collaborative continues to disagree with how the Forest Service defines old growth.
- There were several new participants who had not been to previous meetings. A majority of the time was spent trying to bring these new participants up to speed on what was being proposed and why.
- No design features or monitoring requirements were added to the list provided in the handout (below).
- A decision is anticipated by the end of April 2015.

Participants

The following Forest Service employees were in attendance:

- Erick Walker, District Ranger
- Tera Little, Team Leader
- Dave Cobb, Silviculturist
- Dan Scaife, Hydrologist
- Dan Jackson, Transportation Engineer
- Dan Gilfillan, Recreation Specialist
- Morai Helfen, Landscape Architect

The following members of the public were in attendance:



Jasper mtn April 16th Public Meeting

Name — If not on mailing list, include contact info:

1. Jim + Peggy Tvyc 757 Peterson Rd, PR — uganik.island@gmail.com — 448-0411
2. robertthdouglas@yahoo.com
3. Jim Matteer — Backcountry Horsemen — Jima@jmmatteer.com
4. Dan Jackson — USDA FS — 443-2572 (Forest Service)
5. Bob Elliott
6. Janet Elliott
7. Dave Cobb – F.S. Priest Lake (Forest Service)
8. Paul Steracki
9. +2 local community members who did not sign in.

Handout: Post-Analysis/Pre-Decision Discussion for Jasper Mountain

April 16, 2015

Follow-Up to March 11th Meeting

- **Visual concerns in Units 45 and 47:** Landscape architect had a chance to view these units from the PeeWee trail system. After discussions with the silviculturist, it was determined that, in addition to retaining healthy western white pine and western larch, ten percent (approximately 8 to 9 acres) of other conifer species would be retained in small patches scattered throughout the units.
- **Request to increase "fuel break" on NFS Rd 416 south of units 92 & 94:** Added 4 acres of commercial thinning to southern end of unit 94 to further reduce hazardous fuels.
- **Reviewed information for Units 38, 44, 45 and 107:** Determined no activities are being proposed in old growth stands (as defined by Green et al, 2011). Project design features already call for retention of large trees to the extent trees promote stands resilient to insect and disease.

Required Design Features Identified During Analysis

The following mitigation measures or design features will be included in the decision and provide for consistency with the Forest Plan and other guidance, and/or they minimize potential impacts to the applicable resources.

Aquatics (Water, Fish and Amphibians)

1. All known or discovered wetlands, seeps, bogs, elk wallows and springs *less than* one acre in size would be protected from timber harvest or road construction with a minimum 75-foot no-activity buffer for aquatic species that are dependent upon these features, or as prescribed by the district botanist and wildlife biologist. If wetlands, seeps, bogs, elk wallows and springs *larger than* one acre in size are discovered, then they will have at least a 150 foot buffer in size or may be larger, if deemed necessary by the district botanist and wildlife biologist.

2. Streamside buffers adjacent to harvest areas would be used to protect water quality and aquatic dependent species and their habitats as prescribed by the Inland Native Fish Strategy (Appendix D of the 2015 Revised Forest Plan). Buffers would be 300 feet wide around all fish-bearing streams, 150 feet around all permanently flowing nonfish-bearing streams, and 75 feet around all seasonally flowing or intermittent streams.

3. No culvert replacements, culvert removals, and/or in-stream work would be permitted prior to July 15 to protect spawning and incubation periods for westslope cutthroat trout. Any in-stream work occurring after October 1 would be coordinated with the District fisheries biologist to assess site impacts and to determine if weather conditions would permit such activities.

Botany

4. Pre-implementation surveys for presence/absence of rare plants will occur in areas with potential habitat, including clearance of "support areas" such as equipment landings, borrow pits, etc. Review and document pre-implementation surveys, any located Sensitive Plants, and adaptive measures used to prevent negative impacts. Document the project file, stand cards, and Forest GIS layer with survey and rare plant occurrence information.
5. All documented rare plant occurrences would be protected from project activities by site-specific buffers established by a qualified botanist.
6. Microsites of highly suitable rare plants habitat that occur within proposed treatment units, including seeps, springs and other seasonally or perennially wet areas, would be protected from all project activities by site-specific buffers established by a qualified botanist.
7. Any changes to the proposed action that may occur during layout would be reviewed by a qualified botanist, and rare plant surveys would be conducted as necessary prior to project implementation. Newly documented occurrences would be evaluated, with specific protection measures implemented to protect population viability. Such measures could include the following:
    - Dropping units from harvest activity;
    - Modifying unit boundaries to provide adequate buffers around documented occurrences, as determined by a qualified botanist and based on topography, extent of contiguous suitable habitat for documented occurrences and the type of treatment proposed;
    - Modifying harvest methods, fuels treatment or logging systems to protect rare plants and their habitats; and/or
    - Implementing, if necessary, Timber Sale Contract provisions B6.24, Protection Measures Needed for Plants, Animals, Cultural Resources, and Cave Resources; C6.24#- Site Specific Special Protection Measures; and B8.33, Contract Suspension and Modification

Fire/Fuels & Air Quality

8. Grapple piling followed by pile burning. In units with grapple piling the activity-created and natural dead and down fuels will be piled and burned to reduce fuel loading levels.
9. Aerial ignition utilizing helicopters, if needed, will generally be no more than two days per burn season.
10. Whole tree yarding or biomass utilization will occur in units, where feasible, to reduce activity and natural fuels. This will improve forest health, reduce surface fuel loading levels, the number and size of piles and time required for disposing of piles.
11. Fire line would be constructed when necessary to contain prescribed burns and/or protect resource concerns. This reduces the risk of escape and enables fire managers to successfully and safely implement prescribed burns. Fire line can include black lining, line constructed by hand or mechanical means (including chainsaws), pruning and hose lays. Topographic and vegetative features of the landscape including existing roads,

trails, creek drainages, wet meadows, rocky outcrops and other natural barriers would also be used as control lines where possible.

12. Prescribed burning will be used to reduce and/or remove activity fuels generated after mechanical treatment activities or to remove/reduce natural fuels that have accumulated due to natural forest succession, insect and disease, blow down or past fires. Prescribed burning is also utilized to prepare the site for planting, improve wildlife habitat and stimulates regeneration of many tree, shrub, forb and grass species. Prescribed burning would be conducted based on weather and site specific conditions and would take place under the guidelines set forth in a prescribed fire burn plan developed specifically for this project area. Prescribed burn plans are required to address parameters for weather, air quality, contingency resources and are implemented in full compliance with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (ID DEQ) air program with coordination through the Montana/Idaho Airshed Group.
13. Slashing treatments using chainsaws may be utilized in prescribed under burning units prior to burning. Slashing small trees increases surface fuel loading, if needed, to ensure there is sufficient fuel to carry the fire. This enables fire managers more flexibility in accomplishing prescribed fire objectives at lower temperatures and higher relative humidity, and creates varying fire intensity levels.

Forest Vegetation/Silviculture

14. Silvicultural diagnoses have been completed and approved by a certified silviculturist. All vegetation treatments would have final silvicultural prescriptions approved by a certified silviculturist before treatment. Silvicultural prescriptions would consider site-specific factors such as physical site, soils, climate, habitat type, current and future vegetative composition and conditions, as well as interdisciplinary team objectives, NEPA decisions, other regulatory guidance, and Forest Plan goals, objectives and standards.
15. All regeneration harvests would be regenerated with site-adapted species/seed source. Sites will be prescribed burned, mechanically treated or a combination of both to reduce fuels and shrub competition sufficient to establish desired regeneration. In areas treated with regeneration harvest, site preparation for regeneration, fuel treatments, and planting/regeneration would occur within five years of harvest completion.
    - Harvest unit layout will consider suitability limitations on a site-by-site basis on the ground. Harvest and site preparation treatments will consider the short and long term potential negative effects (including blow down, fire mortality, etc.) of proposed activities on adjacent trees and stands with site by site prescription modifications, such as change in unit boundary, modification of prescribed burning prescriptions, etc.
16. Maximize the retention of old growth and large trees, as appropriate for the forest type, to the extent that the trees promote stands that are resilient to insect and disease. When selecting leave trees, if there are insufficient numbers of disease free early seral species, leave trees will be based on individual tree vigor rather than species preference.

Heritage

17. A record search was conducted to determine if the project area was previously surveyed for historic and prehistoric archaeologic sites (sites) and if there are any previously known sites. Archaeological surveys have been conducted for all units proposed for treatment and all identified sites were recorded and a report was submitted to the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Although the archaeological surveys are designed to locate all archaeological sites that might be eligible for the National Register, such sites may go undetected for a variety of reasons. Pursuant to the provisions found in 36 CFR 800.13, should any previously unrecorded archaeological site be discovered during project implementation, activities that may be affecting that resource will be halted immediately. The resource will be evaluated by a professional archaeologist and consultation will be initiated with SHPO to determine appropriate actions for protecting the resource and for mitigating any adverse effects on the resource. Project activities will not be resumed until the resource is adequately protected and any agreed-upon mitigation measures are implemented with SHPO concurrence.

Recreation, Trails and Access

18. Provisions in the timber sale contract would require that traffic control signs using standards set forth in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (US Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, 2003) be posted on affected routes to alert travelers to haul truck traffic.
19. Provisions in the timber sale contract would restrict timber hauling on the weekends and on summer holidays (Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day), unless otherwise agreed. Timber hauling would also be restricted on days when events, for which a special use permit is held (e.g. AERC Equestrian Event), occur in the project area if the days of the event do not fall on a weekend or summer holiday.
20. All brush piles, landings and skid trails will be located at least 200’ from the PeeWee and Steep Creek trails unless blocked by topography from the view of trail users.
21. PeeWee and Steep Creek trailheads will not be used for decking or piling operations and trails will not be used as haul routes.
22. While activities are not anticipated to impact access to the PeeWee or Steep Creek Trails, advanced notice would be provided to key user groups and at the trail head locations should any trails require closure during project implementation.

Soils

Soil productivity and nutrient cycling

23. Fine organic matter and large woody debris would be retained on the ground for sustained nutrient cycling in harvest units, consistent with Graham et al (1994).
24. Slash should be left to over-winter nutrients back into the soil in most cases until fuel reduction treatments occur. This design feature does not apply to those units in which whole tree yarding is to occur or in units with fire concerns related to private property.
25. Prescribed burning and pile burning would occur only when the upper surface inch of mineral soil has a moisture content of 25% by weight, or when duff moisture exceeds

60%, or when other monitoring or modeling indicates that soil productivity will be protected.

26. When prescribed fire is utilized, post-burn conditions would result in no more than 25 to 30 percent bare soils (excluding natural conditions) within an activity area (burn unit). On sensitive soils or slopes at or greater than 40%, no more than 20% of bare soils (excluding natural conditions) would be exposed within the activity area.
27. The desired prescribed fire outcome includes retention of organic matter (generally not much less than ¼ of an inch) that protects the soil from rain splash impacts, erosion, a decrease in soil moisture holding capacity, and increased solar surface heating, especially on south-facing slopes.

Tractor Yarding

28. Ground-based yarding will operate on slopes up to 40 percent. All new skid trails would be designated and laid out to take advantage of topography and minimize disruption of natural drainage patterns. Where terrain is conducive, trails would be spaced at least 100 feet or more apart. Mechanized felling and skidding would allow skid patterns to be closer provided slash mats are being utilized. Post-harvest, ground disturbance associated with skid trails will be covered with randomly placed logs (on the contour) and seeded with the latest seed mix recommended at time of implementation to help increase the microtopography needed to reduce runoff.
29. Heavily impacted skid trails may be required to be decompacted following all ground based activities in order to reduce compaction and erosion potential. Decompaction activities should avoid mixing the soil layers or disrupting their orientation. Determination of trails that need this treatment will be done by the Timber Sale Administrator or the Forest Soil Scientist.
30. All scheduling of harvest activities in tractor and forwarder units would occur when the soil profile is dry to reduce the effects from compaction (Poff, 1996, p. 482). In general, these conditions occur during summer and into fall prior to fire season ending rains.

Skyline Yarding

31. The leading end of logs will be suspended during skyline yarding. No yarding across designated RHCA's would occur with this project.

Protection during Grapple Piling Operations

32. Any ground-based piling of slash (grapple-piling) will operate on slopes up to 40 percent, will utilize existing skid trails where possible and operate on slash mats. Burn piles should be small and numerous rather than large and few.

Log Landings

33. Existing roads will be utilized as landings where appropriate in order to maintain acceptable soil compaction levels. All landings other than existing system roads utilized will be decompacted and covered with residual slash (within guidelines provided by Graham et al. 1994 for coarse-woody debris by habitat type), and seeded upon completion of the sale.

Winter Harvest Operations

34. If any units are harvested in the winter equipment will operate on ground frozen to a minimum depth of four inches.
35. Suspend operations under wet or thawing conditions.

Transportation

36. Temporary roads, to include unclassified roads used as haul routes, will be decommissioned within 3 years of project completion. (Completion means post-harvest activities must also be completed (i.e. burning, reforestation etc.).)

Visuals/Scenery

Unit Marking

37. Use cut tree (as opposed to leave tree) marking in visually sensitive areas.
38. Utilize species designation where appropriate to minimize the amount of necessary marking.

Shape of Individual Units

39. Created openings and treatment units should not be symmetrical in shape.
40. Straight lines and right angles should be avoided.
41. Created openings should resemble the size and shape of those found in the surrounding natural landscape.
42. Treatments should follow natural topographic breaks and changes in vegetation. Utilize natural breaks in topography and vegetation type to delineate treatment edges.
43. Along roadways, vary unit sizes, widths, shapes and distance from the center line.

Edges of Individual Units

44. Shape and/or feather edges to avoid a shadowing effect.
45. Where the unit interfaces with an opening or is adjacent to denser forest, the percent of thinning will be progressively increased toward the outside edge of the unit. In addition, this transition zone should avoid being uniform in size and should vary in width. Soften edges by thinning adjacent to existing unit boundaries, removing taller, older trees and favoring younger ones. This will reduce a vertical wall effect.
46. Treatment boundaries should extend up and over ridgelines to avoid a row of remnant trees along ridge lines that draw attention to created openings and inconsistent with patterns created by fire or other natural disturbances. Avoid widely spaced trees that are silhouetted along the skyline.
47. Reduce road and trail-frontage areas burned in combination with “leave-islands” in a variety of shape and sizes with irregular spacing. Leave islands should be achieved via small hand-constructed fire lines, approved clear fire retardant chemical, and/or “wet” line applications to avoid a strong edge effect. Avoid scorching of woodland specimens in leave areas and edges. Low-intensity backing fires can be used to modify vegetation and fuel accumulation with minimal bole scorch or crown damage. Vary fire intensity

and method throughout unit being treated to aid in a more natural appearing opening.

Unit Specific Design Criteria

48. In units 45 and 47, in addition to retaining healthy western white pine and western larch, retain ten percent (approximately 8 to 9 acres) of other conifer species in small patches scattered throughout the units.
49. In unit 47, undulate the lower unit boundaries around the existing drainage features with 50 to 100 foot buffers.
50. In unit 45, incorporate two leave islands along the lower unit boundary to create an undulating, uneven and feathered edge.

Weeds

51. Plan project implementation cooperatively with any ongoing weed eradication programs (for example perform forest health projects after a weed occurrence has been eradicated)
52. Include contract provisions for timber sale and road construction activities mandating equipment cleaning and inspection prior to use on or off-roads to prevent the introduction or spread of noxious weeds through their seeds, vegetative propagules, or plant parts. This applies to rental equipment as well as contractor equipment.
53. Locate weed-free areas for equipment storage/staging or equipment cleaning as necessary.
54. Retain desirable vegetation in and around project activity to the maximum extent possible consistent with project objectives.
55. Minimize soil disturbance to the extent practical, consistent with project objectives.
    - Inventory roads and schedule noxious weed infested roads for weed treatment prior to commencement of project activities.
    - Do not blade or pull roadsides and ditches unless absolutely necessary. Minimize soil surface disturbance and contain bladed material on the roadway.
    - Pre-clear (or pre-eradicate) soil and gravel pits sources that may be used for road maintenance.
56. Re-establish desirable vegetation to prevent bare ground conditions that favor weed establishment and spread. Consult Zone botanist for acceptable plant seed mixes.
    - Disturbed sites would be prepared to provide a seedbed for reestablishment of desirable vegetation. Practices may include contouring, ripping, and scarifying.
    - For currently closed roads that have been re-opened for the project and temporary roads in heavily weed infested areas; re-vegetate road surfaces with a seed mix that competes well with noxious weeds.
    - All temporary roads will be decommissioned by fully re-contouring the road template and stabilizing with native vegetation (seeding) the disturbed area during the appropriate time of the year after the decommissioning.
    - Use weed-free soils, gravels, mulches, and seeds to be for erosion control and road

maintenance

Wildlife

57. Pre-implementation surveys for raptors nests will occur in all units/areas proposed for treatment/activity. Activities will be adjusted to avoid these sensitive areas during sensitive time periods, as determined to be appropriate and sufficient by a wildlife biologist.
58. If any threatened, endangered or sensitive species were located during implementation of the proposed action, management activities would be altered, if necessary, so that proper protection measures could be taken.
59. Food and Garbage Storage: The Grizzly Bear Management and Protection Plan will be implemented by Forest Service personnel, contractors and volunteers working on the Jasper Mountain project.

Required Monitoring Identified During Analysis

Botany

1. IPNF direction is to inventory and manage sensitive plants so that no new species have to be listed as threatened or endangered. Suitable sensitive plant habitat in project areas is surveyed and projects modified as necessary to achieve this objective. Sensitive plants are protected according to site-specific management plans developed by Forest and zone Botanists.
2. Monitoring of rare plant populations where the proposed activity was modified by buffering rare plant individuals, populations, or habitats to avoid adverse effects would be conducted by qualified Botanists to validate the effectiveness of design features and mitigation measures during and following the activity.

Weeds

3. Weed treatment areas would be surveyed and monitored according to the IPNF North Zone weed efficacy monitoring protocols. Monitoring for noxious weeds along all haul routes and service landings on NFS lands would occur during project implementation, with treatment of identified weed infestations as needed.

Extraordinary Circumstances Determinations

Resource	Extraordinary Circumstance Determination
Federally listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat; **species proposed for Federal listing or proposed critical**	**Wildlife** ***<u>Threatened and Endangered Species</u>*** **Lynx:** ***No Effect*** **-** The project area does not have lynx habitat, is not a Lynx Analysis Unit (LAU) and is not in a lynx linkage zone. (The nearest LAU is 7 miles west of the project area.) **Grizzly:** ***No Effect*** **-** There are no grizzly Bear Management Units (BMUs) in the project area and it is outside both the Recovery Zone and the Bear Outside the Recovery Zone (BORZ). (The nearest BORZ is 2.5

Resource	Extraordinary Circumstance Determination
habitat; **or Forest Service sensitive species**	miles west of the project area.) There are no recent observations in the area (all are further north). **Caribou:** ***No Effect*** **-** The project area is outside caribou habitat (nearest is 14 miles northeast), has no caribou management units or recovery zones (nearest is 12.5 miles northeast) and is not in critical caribou habitat (nearest is 35 miles north). ***Designated Critical Habitat*** – None ***Species Proposed for Listing or Proposed Critical Habitat*** - None ***Sensitive Species*** ***No Impact:*** **Black swift; common loon; harlequin duck; northern bog lemming:** No suitable habitat in the project area. **Coeur d'Alene Salamander:** Riparian buffers for perennial streams would sufficiently prevent habitat from being impacted. ***May Impact Individuals Or Habitat, But Will Not Likely Contribute To A Trend Towards Federal Listing Or Cause a Loss of Viability To the Population or Species:*** *NOTE: As documented under design features for wildlife, pre-implementation surveys for raptors nests will occur in all units/areas proposed for treatment/activity. Activities will be adjusted to avoid these sensitive areas during sensitive time periods, as determined to be appropriate and sufficient by a wildlife biologist.* **American peregrine falcon:** Implementation of the proposed action is extremely unlikely to directly or indirectly peregrine falcons and would not affect their habitat. At most, there may be temporary disturbance effects associated with an increase of traffic along Forest Road (FR) 334. If falcons were present, it is assumed they would be acclimated to existing levels of noise and vehicle proximity; the project may increase the amount of noise and traffic volume during ten years of implementation. However, disturbance would not be continuous or in close proximity to potential nesting and foraging habitat. Furthermore, there appear not to be any falcons present. **Bald eagle:** Bald eagles that are foraging or that may be nesting or roosting along the Priest River corridor may be temporarily disturbed by an increase in traffic volume along FR 334. However, there are no identified nesting areas in the project area; therefore no nest sites would be affected. Also, eagles are acclimated to the present amount of road- and trail-related noise and road management activity would occur at any one location for a short period of time. It is unlikely that potential

Resource	Extraordinary Circumstance Determination
	roosting trees would be removed in any project units because the largest trees and snags would be generally retained. Lastly, Forest guidelines are in place to protect nest any discovered nest sites with appropriate distance buffers and timing restraints. **Black-backed woodpecker:** Recent high-severity wildfires provide the best habitat for black-backed woodpeckers. However, allowing such high-intensity fire to occur within the wildland-urban interface is not a desired condition. Fire suppression is likely to continue indefinitely in the project vicinity because there are residences and major travel or ingress/egress routes in the area. The proposed action would not affect any recent post-fire black-backed woodpecker habitat. The project will not affect widespread beetle outbreaks. The project may affect endemic levels of insect activity, which could increase in the near future given the current forest conditions. Therefore, the project may affect low-quality habitat. **Flammulated owl:** The primary reason there is little flammulated owl habitat on the Forest or in the Region is fire suppression since the early 20th century. A lack of frequent, low-intensity wildfire has increased tree presence in the understory of more suitable open stands. While this proposed action would increase the amount of suitable flammulated owl habitat, there would be no substantial increase to that available on the Forest or the Region. Flammulated owls have not been observed in the project area for about twenty years, and are not likely to be present because the habitat is poor. Therefore, it is extremely unlikely that there would be any direct effect to individual owls. **Pygmy nuthatch:** The primary reason there is little pygmy nuthatch habitat on the Forest or in the Region is fire suppression since the early 20th century. A lack of frequent, low-intensity wildfire has increased tree presence in the understory of more suitable mature ponderosa pine stands. While this proposed action would increase the amount of suitable pygmy nuthatch habitat over the long term, there would be no substantial increase to that available on the Forest or the Region. Pygmy nuthatches have not been observed in the project, and are not likely to be present because the habitat is nearly absent. Therefore, it is extremely unlikely that there would be any direct effect to individual nuthatches. **Fisher:** Fishers have not been detected in the project vicinity using the most recent survey efforts and methods. The closest record is nearly 15 miles east. Thus, individual fishers are not likely to be impacted by the proposed action. Fisher habitat in the project area would remain largely intact. About 90 percent of denning/resting/foraging and other foraging habitat would not be affected or would remain suitable. The project would not add cumulatively and substantially to the effects of other projects or activities in the analysis area.

Resource	Extraordinary Circumstance Determination
	Gray wolf: Wolves have not been recorded from the project area, which is not unexpected given the mixed-ownership pattern of private and Forest land in the project area and the heavy public use of the project area and vicinity. The project area is at the edge of a much larger pack territory and is less than five percent of the territory. There would be no effect to den or rendezvous sites. There would be minor increases in prey habitat quality, but not such that there would be a substantial increase in the prey population. **North American wolverine:** Wolverines have not been recently observed in the project area, which is not unexpected given the mixed-ownership pattern of private and Forest land in the project area, heavy public use of the project area and vicinity, secretive and wide-ranging nature of the wolverine. The project area is within male dispersal habitat, but is outside female habitat and denning habitat. There would be no effect to den sites or denning habitat. There would be minor increases in ungulate habitat quality, but not such that there would be a substantial increase in the ungulate population and a subsequent increase in carrion. Forest management activities are not believed to substantially affect the wolverine. The project would not add cumulatively and substantially to the effects of other projects or activities in the analysis area. **Townsend's big-eared bat and Fringed myotis:** Bats have been recorded in and near the project area in habitats in which one would expect. In areas where access routes border foraging habitat, there may be very short term disturbance during evening foraging hours. This is not expected to displace bats permanently. Existing meadow habitat will not be impacted. There will be an increase in available open habitat and forest edge habitat for up to thirty years. **Western toad:** Although western toad records do not exist, habitat does and it is reasonable to expect there to be toads in the project area. There may be incidental injury or mortality along access routes but not to an extent that would affect the local population. Existing high quality riparian and breeding habitat will not be impacted, except where road maintenance or repair occurs at stream crossings. **Fish** ***Threatened and Endangered Species & Designated Critical Habitat*** **Bull Trout:** ***No Effect*** **-** There is designated critical habitat for the bull trout in the main stem of the Priest River. The habitat has been determined to be foraging, migratory and overwintering habitat and the species may be present in the main stem of the Priest River, but has not been documented in tributaries to the Priest River within the project area. The project is anticipated to have insignificant or immeasurable effects to the species and the life history requirements in the designated critical habitat within Priest River.

Resource	Extraordinary Circumstance Determination
	Species Proposed for Listing or Proposed Critical Habitat – None. There is no proposed critical habitat for fish or species proposed for listing in the Jasper Mountain project area. ***Sensitive Species*** **Westslope Cutthroat Trout:** ***May Impact Individuals Or Habitat, But Will Not Likely Contribute To A Trend Towards Federal Listing Or Cause a Loss of Viability To the Population or Species*** - Potential for sediment generated from proposed activities reaching a live stream is low due to the use of best management practices, Inland Native Fish Strategy, and identified design features. Road decommissioning/storage and/or necessary road maintenance/repairs are being implemented to reduce or eliminate sources currently contributing sediment. **Botany** *NOTE: As documented under design features for botany, pre-implementation surveys for presence/absence of rare plants will occur in areas with potential habitat, including clearance of "support areas" such as equipment landings, borrow pits, etc.* ***Threatened and Endangered Species & Designated Critical Habitat*** None. Federally listed threatened or endangered plant species are not known or suspected in the Jasper Mountain project area. ***Species Proposed for Listing*** **White Bark Pine:** ***No Effect*** - Project area is below elevation for this species. ***Proposed Critical Habitat:*** None. There is no proposed critical habitat for plants in the Jasper Mountain project area. ***Sensitive Species*** ***May Impact Individuals Or Habitat, But Will Not Likely Contribute To A Trend Towards Federal Listing Or Cause a Loss of Viability To the Population or Species*** - Pre-implementation surveys for presence/absence in areas with potential habitat will occur. Any located Sensitive Plants would be documented the project file, on stand cards, and in Forest GIS layers. Adaptive measures would be used to prevent negative impacts. Sensitive habitat guilds will be avoided. Through surveys, avoidance of known locations, and avoidance of sensitive habitat guilds, Sensitive species' distribution and habitat will be maintained.
Flood plains, wetlands or municipal watersheds	**Minimal Effect** - Riparian areas would be avoided and the appropriate buffers applied for fish-bearing streams; permanently flowing non-fish bearing streams; ponds, lakes, reservoirs and wetlands greater than one acre; and seasonally flowing or intermittent streams, wetlands less than

Resource	Extraordinary Circumstance Determination
	one acre, landslides and landslide prone areas. It is expected that project related sediment impacts to stream channels, floodplains, and wetland areas will be negligible with the application of buffers and use of best management practices.
Congressionally designated areas, such as wilderness, wilderness study areas, or National Recreation Areas	**No Effect** - These areas do not exist in the project area and therefore no activities are proposed in these areas. Additionally, none of these areas are in close proximity to the project area or proposed activities.
Inventoried roadless areas or potential wilderness areas; Research Natural Areas	**No Effect** - These areas do not exist in the project area and therefore no activities are proposed in these areas. Additionally, none of these areas are in close proximity to the project area or proposed activities.
American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural Sites; Archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas	**No Effect** – Identified sites would be avoided through design features/ mitigation measures. Surveys have been completed on all units being proposed for treatment. Consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) was completed and SHPO concurred with the findings for heritage resources.